REMARKS

Applicant requests reconsideration and allowance of the present application in view of the foregoing amendments and the following remarks.

Claims 1 - 38 are pending in the present application. Claims 1, 9, 16 are the independent claims.

Claims 1, 9, and 16 have been amended to further define features of the present invention. No new matter is believed to have been added.

Independent claim 1 recites, inter alia, a specifying control unit implementing a specifying module which firstly selects one of the format file and the data file, and secondly drags the other of the format file and the data file to the selected file.

Independent claims 9 and 16 recite similar features in method and readable-by-computer medium forms, respectively.

By the aforementioned features, an operator can select a data file and drag the data file to a format file or select a format file and drag the format file to the data file. Thus, two way delivery of files can be realized, one way by delivering the data file to the format file and the second way be delivering the format file to the data file.

However, Applicant respectfully submits that none of Bence, Jr. et al., Estrada et al., and Yuichi teach or suggest at least the aforementioned features of independent claims 1, 9, and 16. Thus, without conceding the propriety of combining the asserted citations in the manner set forth in the Office Action, the combinations of these citations are likewise deficient.

The primary citation to Bence Jr. et al. discusses selecting a data file and delivering the selected data file to a format file. However, Bence Jr. et al. is silent as to the converse, that is selecting a format file and delivering the selected format file to a data file. Stated another way, Bence et al. discusses one way delivery of a data file to a format file; it does not teach two way delivery. Thus, the Bence, Jr. et al. does not meet the setting feature of independent claims 1, 9, and 16.

The secondary citation to Estrada et al. is cited by the Office Action for its alleged teaching of specifying a file by selecting and dragging any one of the file format and the data file for conversion of the file and FIG. 16 (item 244) of the subject patent is cited for support. (Office Action, page 4). This contention is respectfully traversed because Estrada et al. discusses

dragging and dropping a data file, not a format file.

Estrada et al., with reference to item 244 of FIG. 16, discusses a file upload by either dragging and dropping a file or using a field-open-dialog command to select a file for publication on the world wide web. (Estrada et al., Col. 21, lines 25-30). Further, the selected file is non-HTML file which is to be automatically converted to HTML. (Estrada et al., Col. 20, lines 45-55). Thus, the selected file is a data file. And, because Estrada et al. discusses using a "drag & drop" operation to select and deliver the selected file, the cited portion of Estrada et al. is discussing dragging and dropping a data file, not a format file. Stated another way, Estrada et al. discusses one way delivery of a data file to format it; it does not teach two way delivery. Thus, Applicant respectfully submits that Estrada et al. adds nothing that would remedy the aforementioned deficiency in the teachings or suggestions of Bence, Jr. et al.

Accordingly, Applicant respectfully requests favorable reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejection of claims 1-22 and 24-38 under 35 U.S.C. § 103.

In view of the foregoing, Applicant respectfully submits that the independent claims patentably define the present invention over the citations of record. Further, the dependent claims should also be allowable for the same reasons as their respective base claims and further due to the additional features that they recite. Separate and individual consideration of the dependent claims is respectfully requested.

Applicant submits that this Preliminary Amendment and the RCE filed on January 10, 2005, clearly places the subject application in condition for allowance. Accordingly, entry of the instant Preliminary Amendment is requested.

If there are any formal matters remaining after this Preliminary Amendment, the Examiner is requested to telephone the undersigned to attend to such matters.

There being no further outstanding objections or rejections, it is submitted that the present application is in condition for allowance. An early action to that effect is courteously solicited.

If there are any additional fees associated with filing of this Amendment, please charge the same to our Deposit Account No. 19-3935.

Respectfully submitted,

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